

MASSACHUSETTS PRIMARY BUYER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. Dealer Reporting in MA for 2006. As in 2005, all primary buyers are required to report their purchases of any marine species (including shellfish or those intended for bait purposes) from fishermen in 2006. Primary buyers include fishermen who have a dealer's permit and are acting as their own dealer and selling product that they've caught, (essentially, they are "buying from themselves", and must report their transactions). This reporting requirement covers all dealers in Massachusetts, whether federally permitted or not. Federally permitted primary buyers, other than those that have a federal lobster or tuna permit only, are considered to be "federal-reporting" dealers, and will continue to report their purchases according to federal requirements (see section B below). All other primary buyers are considered to be "state-reporting" dealers (see section C below). All reported data is entered into a coast wide database system run by the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP). This is a joint program managed by ACCSP in conjunction with all of the Atlantic States and the Federal Government. For more information on ACCSP, visit the ACCSP website at www.accsp.org.

B. Federal-Reporting Dealers in MA. Dealers with federal permits, other than those that have a federal lobster or tuna permit only, are considered to be federal-reporting dealers and will report their purchases based on federal requirements. Furthermore, although reporting certain shellfish species is not a federal requirement, it is a MA state requirement. Thus all federal-reporting dealers in MA must report purchases of all marine species, including shellfish or those species intended for bait purposes. Note that all species purchased must be reported by date and a MA fisherman permit ID number, regardless of the species purchased or whether the fisherman was federally permitted or not. All vessels and/or fishermen landing any marine species in MA must have a MA permit. Each permit has a unique DMF ID number, and it is this number which must be included with each transaction. For information about federal permits, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service in Gloucester at 978-281-9370 or go to their website at: www.nero.noaa.gov/fso. If you have questions about state requirements, contact the MA Division of Marine Fisheries at 978-282-0308 x117.

C. State-Reporting Dealers in MA. Dealers who do not have a federal permit, or have only a federal lobster or tuna permit, are considered to be state-reporting dealers and will report their purchases based on state requirements. Those requirements are as follows:

1. All transactions with fishermen, or primary purchases, must be reported. This includes purchases of bait products as well as species caught and sold by fishermen acting as their own dealer.
2. Transactions are trip-based. Information collected and submitted by the dealer is as follows:
 - ❖ Date purchased
 - ❖ Fisherman purchased from, including the state DMF ID Number (not the 4-digit permit number)
 - ❖ Species and amount (lbs, bushels, etc.)
 - ❖ Disposition
 - ❖ Price paid
 - ❖ If shellfish, designated shellfish growing area the species of shellfish was harvested from
3. Transactions must be submitted either by entering directly via the Internet using the ACCSP SAFIS application or by submitting in paper form to MA DMF either by mail or FAX on provided reporting worksheets. Each week's transactions, beginning 00:01 on Sunday and ending at 24:00 on the following Saturday, will be due by 24:00 on Tuesday of the following week, or within 3 days of the end of the week. If you are interested in reporting your transaction electronically rather than on paper, answer YES to question 2C on the front and we will contact you to get you started reporting in this fashion.

Further information including primary buyer packets (worksheets, instructions, FAQ's, etc.) will be mailed after the receipt of this primary buyer application. For questions about reporting requirements, call the DMF Statistics Project at 978-282-0308 x117, or visit the DMF website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries and follow the link for Dealer Reporting.